

National Scholars Program



2006-2007 Annual Report

CLEMSON
UNIVERSITY

Our Mission Statement

In collaboration with other University offices and programs, the mission of Clemson's National Scholars Program is as follows:

- Recruit and select the top high school students from throughout the United States.
- Provide a competitive scholarship that covers all tuition, fees and other required expenses.
- Coordinate a rewarding summer of study and travel in Great Britain.
- Create and program intellectually challenging and rewarding enrichment opportunities.
- Provide individual and group advising that addresses and enhances the National Scholars' interests and skills.
- Prepare the National Scholars to excel in graduate school and on fellowship applications.

Our Supporters

The National Scholars Program is thankful to the Clemson Office of Development for its support and deeply grateful for the considerable generosity of several Clemson alumni, including

- The estate of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Ballenger, Class of 1923
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Bishop Jr., Class of 1965
- Dr. and Mrs. Paul W. McAlister, Class of 1941
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. McMahan, Class of 1954
- Dr. and Mrs. R. Roy Pearce, Class of 1941*

*Dr. Pearce passed away in November 2004.

"My greatest revelation from my time at Clemson is that I can be the one to make the changes I want to see in the world." — Christen Smith

Making Their Mark



Through the National Scholars Program, our students begin a lifelong commitment to make their dreams a reality — at Clemson, in their community, in the nation and in the world.

In the World

From studies abroad in Argentina, Belgrade and Brussels to service and research internships in Tanzania and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Scholars take advantage of learning and service opportunities around the globe. In 2006, one of our seniors was named a finalist for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

In the Nation

The National Scholars have been recognized in a broad range of national programs and competitions, which includes winning a 2006 Goldwater Scholarship, being named a national finalist for the Truman Scholarship and earning honorable mention on the *USA Today* 2007 All-USA College Academic Team. Their experiences in summer internships and NSF-sponsored Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) have yielded multiple articles in national science journals.

In the Community

Through leadership in numerous organizations such as the Foundation for the Medical Relief of Children, the National Scholars have made critical contributions to the Clemson community. They continue to be active participants in many activities, including an after-school tutoring program coordinated by students in the Calhoun Honors College.

On Campus

The scholars shape student life at Clemson — as student body president, opinions editor of *The Tiger* student newspaper and drum major for the Tiger Band. They often serve as the student voice on academic matters. For example, they work on college and departmental advisory committees and the student conduct board.

A Comprehensive Program



Clemson's National Scholars Program provides enrichment and support throughout the scholars' years at Clemson.

Freshman Year

National Scholars Orientation Retreat

The freshman scholars learn to work together and become part of the National Scholars community.

Freshman Seminar

This seminar provides an intensive introduction to ideas and issues that are critical to success during the freshman year and beyond.

Summer Study Abroad

After studying British history and culture during the spring semester, the freshman National Scholars study and travel in the United Kingdom and other countries in Europe.

Programs for Everyone

Enrichment Travel

The National Scholars expand their horizons through domestic and international travel experiences such as a 2005 trip to the Galapagos Islands to study environmental and conservation issues and a 2006 trip to Brussels and Belgrade to explore the issues currently facing the European Union.

News Discussions

Scholars participate in a weekly forum to learn about and discuss the issues grabbing the headlines each week.

Book Discussions

Top Clemson faculty choose books and facilitate dinner discussions each month. Past titles include *The Assassins' Gate* by George Packer, *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood, *The Prince* by Niccolo Machiavelli and *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand.

LeaderShape Institute

Selected National Scholars attend this premier international program for college student leaders.

Internship/Research Support

The National Scholars team provides guidance and support for student internships and research experiences at home and abroad.

Specialized Seminars and Short Courses

- The scholars take one- or two-session short courses that focus on a key issue or skill such as negotiation techniques.
- They participate in dinner/discussions and meetings with top faculty, University administrators and community leaders.
- The students take advantage of on- and off-campus opportunities to meet and exchange ideas with key leaders from a wide range of career fields and academic disciplines.

“Being a National Scholar didn’t just allow me to pursue whatever I wanted to do; it introduced me to venues and books and thoughts and interests and places that I could never have imagined.” – Jeff Clinkscales

Our Graduating Seniors

When the 12 students in the 2003 class of National Scholars began their journeys at Clemson, no one could have imagined exactly where their paths would lead. These eight women and four men have accomplished so much, both collectively and individually. These are just the highlights:

- Interning at the Department of Defense, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Traveling to and studying in England, Ireland, France, Serbia and Montenegro, the Galapagos Islands, Mexico and the Dominican Republic
- Bringing together Clemson cancer researchers in a first-ever symposium to plant the seeds of future collaboration
- Meeting with leaders of the European Union and Serbia to learn about the challenges faced in a new Europe
- Leading several campus organizations such as Habitat for Humanity
- Serving the Clemson community, on campus and off, through the Clemson Language Partner Program and many other individual and group endeavors
- Receiving countless campus and departmental awards, including the Matt Locke Award for Student Service, the Phil Prince Student Personal Development Award, the Marion Harris Award for Excellence in Economics and the Sue King Dunkle Award for Outstanding Sophomore in Mathematics
- Winning national recognition, including status as a national finalist in the Rhodes Scholarship competition and selection as the top intern for General Electric in the summer of 2006

So much could be written about these 12 students’ successes and accomplishments. However, we’ll let the students tell their own stories, about how they’ve changed, what they’ve learned and what they’ll miss about Clemson.

“Being a National Scholar is everything education should be, tailor-made for the man or woman who always has and always will love to learn. It was over way too soon.”



Jeff Clinkscales

Phi Beta Kappa
Sumter, S.C.
Major: Spanish

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Reformed University Fellowship, The Navigators, Impulse (a cappella group), National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Philosophy Club, Men's Glee, PASS tutor for physics, Golden Key National Honor Society, Clemson University Singers, intramurals (flag football), Relay for Life, volunteer tutoring/mentoring at Ravenel Elementary School, Clemson Language Partner Program

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Mission to the World, Ciudad Victoria, Mexico (spring 2005); Medical Missions International in Barahona, Dominican Republic (summer 2005); study abroad at La Universidad Blás Pascal in Argentina (spring 2006); research with Dr. Lesly Temesvari at Clemson (fall 2006)

Key Research: Involvement of a Rab8-like protein of *Dictyostelium discoideum*, Sas1, in the formation of membrane extensions, secretion and adhesion during development

FOUR YEARS LATER. College passes in a blink of an eye. The 12 men and women who entered Clemson



Amanda Youell: “I was so nervous as a freshman that I was often too scared to attempt anything new. After four years of being surrounded by thousands of students with a desire to learn and serve, I have been challenged to branch out and explore my passions. Seeing fellow National Scholars reach their goals gave me the confidence to achieve my own.”

Lauren Smith: “Because I found role models in the older scholars, I love to interact with younger students now and get to serve as a resource for them since I have navigated all the same obstacles they are facing. After four years, I am better at making major decisions, and I worry less about minor details. Clemson has helped me see the bigger picture.”

Stephen Gosnell: “I’ve changed by learning to focus on big-picture things while still not micromanaging. After changing majors three times before the end of my sophomore year, I finally gave up on making long-term plans and just started enjoying classes and the activities around me. Through that, opportunities both in and out of the classroom just started to show up. I learned that if you will take chances and do what you enjoy, the long-term stuff will fall into place.”

“Whenever I’ve encountered a closed door that was keeping me from reaching my goals, the National Scholars Program helped me learn how to open that door.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Dixon Fellows, Clemson Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, *Semantics* (art editor, technology manager), Award for Outstanding Sophomore in Computer Science, Golden Key National Honor Society, intramurals (flag football, soccer), Relay for Life, Award for Outstanding Senior in Computer Science, Upsilon Pi Epsilon (honor society for computer science)

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: REU in computer science at Iowa State University (summer 2006); performing matrix operations on an nVidia graphics card using OpenGL and GLSL with Dr. Mike Westall at Clemson (summer 2005)

Key Research: Development of a multi-touch touchscreen based on frustrated total internal reflection for use in command and control applications as part of the SPIRE-EIT program



Robert Dixon

Idaho Falls, Idaho
Major: Computer Science and Mathematical Sciences

as anxious teenagers in 2003 will graduate as confident adults in 2007.

Yousef Yasin: “During my time as a National Scholar, my travels around the world have broadened my horizons and expanded my worldview.”

Laura Hart: “Somewhere in the course of the last four years, I learned how to relax. I figured out that yes, it is ok to go on an ice cream run in the middle of the night, even though you have a paper due in two days. I will survive if I take 45 minutes or an

hour to eat dinner and catch up with my roommates, despite the test that looms on the horizon. I know now that sometimes the studying, the errands, the chores and the work have to wait until after you’ve taken a little time to really enjoy yourself and the time you have with good friends.”

Rob Dixon: “I have gained confidence, independence and perspective as a student and a leader. Clemson’s academic and extracurricular activities forced me to define myself and my goals in life. The National Scholars Program helped me with this process through classes, travel experiences and other opportunities that built my confidence and inspired me to action.”

Rachel Rhyne: “I think I am more confident in my abilities to be successful in a world of really capable people. I was scared, coming to Clemson, that I would become a small fish in a large pond, but since arriving, I’ve grown through the obstacles and challenges to have more faith in my potential.”

"I learned that if you take chances and do what you enjoy, the long-term stuff will fall in place."



Stephen Gosnell

Phi Beta Kappa

2006 Goldwater Scholar

Landrum, S.C.

Major: Biological Sciences

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Honorable mention on the *USA Today* 2007 All-USA College Academic Team, Student body president and vice president, Student Senate (University Relations Committee), Dixon Fellows, Campus Crusade for Christ, intramurals (flag football), LeaderShape Institute, Mortar Board National Leadership Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Students for Organ Donation, Matt Locke Award for student service, Blue Key National Honor Society

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Discover Life in America, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (summer 2005)

Key Research: Identification of diagnostic morphological characteristics in caddisfly larvae of eastern United States (with Dr. John Morse at Clemson) and a phylogenetic analysis of sexual size dimorphism in turtles (with Dr. Rick Blob at Clemson)

THE HIGHLIGHTS. They sought opportunities to learn and grow, both in and out of the classroom, and n



Kate Hicks: "The greatest lesson I have learned is that one exam, one lab, one project will not make or break your career. Maintaining a healthy balance among school, sports and social activities is critical."

Kelly Jones: "My most enlightening moment as a National Scholar was more like a series of moments. Before I came to Clemson, I had never had the opportunity to do much traveling, so the summer I spent in Europe after my freshman year was an eye-opening experience. Being able to immerse myself into another culture allowed me to expand my horizons and view situations from different perspectives."

Stephen Gosnell: "The greatest lesson I've learned at Clemson is to prioritize time and that saying no is sometimes the most responsible decision. College gave me a chance to be involved in a number of activities, but also taught me to focus on what is truly important."

“Being able to immerse myself into another culture allowed me to expand my horizons and view situations from different perspectives.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Leadership Council, Freshman Council (Campus Events Committee chairperson), intramurals (flag football, softball, soccer, volleyball), LeaderShape Institute, Clemson Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Clemson University Guide Association (treasurer), Code Elementary after-school tutoring program, Student Alumni Association, Relay for Life, Habitat for Humanity (public relations chair, co-fund-raising chair), Golden Key National Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society (vice president)

Key Research: The role of cholesterol in the pathogenic adhesion and virulence of *Entamoeba histolytica* in human amoebiasis; using an *in silico* approach to identify FYVE-finger domain proteins in the *Entamoeba histolytica* pathogen and compare them to the human genome to identify unique *E. histolytica* proteins (both projects with Dr. Lesly Temesvari at Clemson)



Kelly Jones

Princeton, W.Va.
Major: Biological Sciences

How the senior scholars remember those key moments and lessons from their time at Clemson.

Lauren Smith: “During my sophomore year in the Leadership Experience, I learned that it is okay to say no sometimes and to involve myself in things I am passionate about. I don’t help anyone with a half-hearted effort, and I am more fulfilled and excited when I am doing what I love.”

Rob Dixon: “I’ve seen the importance of trying new and different things, even when the chance of failure is high. Taking risks and growing through mistakes are essential parts

of becoming an influential leader and a mature individual. Clemson has provided me with tremendous opportunities where success is not assured or even likely, and I have both succeeded and failed when trying to take advantage of these opportunities. I doubt that this kind of environment exists at other schools, where success either comes too easily or ultra-competitiveness teaches students to fear failure.”

Christen Smith: “My greatest revelation from my time at Clemson is that I can be the one to make the changes I want to see in the world. This, for me, marked a turning point in my education, in which I progressed from an interested observer to an active agent of change. No longer did I consider the possibilities and promptly dismiss them as the responsibility of those more skilled, knowledgeable or experienced. I have placed myself within that responsible party, and the possibilities are blown wide open.”

Suzanne Weaver: “My favorite experience as a National Scholar was the Connecting Cancer Researchers at Clemson luncheon that we planned in our Executive Leadership and Entrepreneurship class. It was frustrating at times trying to reserve the room, invite the right guests and organize all of the professors’ ideas on cancer research at Clemson, but we all felt so incredibly proud when it went off without a hitch.”

“Clemson is one of the few schools that builds even one Habitat house every year, let alone two. It’s so humbling to be part of something so big and know that you really contributed.”



Laura Hart

Phi Beta Kappa
Cincinnati, Ohio
Major: Biochemistry

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Habitat for Humanity (president, vice president),
Dixon Fellows, Biochemistry and Genetics
Club, supplemental instructor for MTHSC 108,
Clemson Foundation for International Medical
Relief of Children, Relay for Life, Omicron Delta
Kappa National Honor Society

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Medical research intern with the Mitochondrial
Genetics Lab, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital
Medical Center (summer 2005); medical
research intern with the Otolaryngology
Department, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital
Medical Center (summer 2006)

Key Research: Mitochondrial mutations and
their impacts on health with a primary focus
on mutations that cause deafness and a
retrospective study on the use of CNS imaging
in pediatric patients with hearing loss

SURPRISE! It’s safe to say that the expectations of these National Scholars, in class and out, were met



Suzanne Weaver: “What has surprised me most about my experience as a Clemson student and National Scholar is how true the experience has been to what I was told it would be when I came to the National Scholars Weekend in February 2003. At the weekend, we heard all these amazing things about Clemson, and in the back of my mind, I wondered if it was all just really good advertising. But after my time here, I can honestly say that my experience has been above

and beyond my expectations. I have never felt like a number. I have always had something to do on campus, and I have been able to travel abroad to places I never even dreamed of going.”

Rob Dixon: “I have always been surprised by the personal attention that is part of the education as a Clemson student and National Scholar. This attention isn’t just a show for visitors or a means to ease freshmen into college; it’s a real, lasting social and academic connection. The support I’ve received from Clemson’s faculty and from the National Scholars Program has exceeded my expectations and only grown over the years.”

“As I graduate, I hope I have been a leader academically, athletically and in the Clemson community.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Dixon Fellows, varsity swimming, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Alpha Epsilon Delta pre-med honor society, Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society, Solid Orange Squad (Clemson athletes community service organization), Biosystems Engineering Club, Relay for Life (team captain), writer for *Orange and White* (IPTAY newspaper), intramurals (volleyball)

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: REU in neuroscience at the University of Minnesota evaluating the practicality of using solar energy as an alternative to traditional energy sources (summer 2006)

Key Research: A study in human psychophysics — the effect of bayesian inference during visual perception tasks



Kate Hicks

Greenville, S.C.

Major: Biosystems Engineering

and exceeded in ways they never expected.

Laura Hart: “I sort of stumbled into my experience with Habitat for Humanity at Clemson, but now I’m helping to organize the building of two separate houses where most of the work will be done by Clemson students. Clemson is one of the few schools in the country that builds even one house every year, let alone two. It’s so humbling to be part of something so big and know that you really contributed to its fulfillment.”

Amanda Youell: “I was amazed at how many people were willing to help me, both inside and outside of the National Scholars Program. Everyone I ever asked for help was more than willing to talk with me or give me advice. Thanks to my advisers and professors, I was able to participate in an REU program at the University of Akron, present my research at two math conferences and participate in a select internship with the Department of Defense.”

Christen Smith: “The most incredible and surprising aspect of my experience with the National Scholars Program has been where it has taken me! Clemson has provided me an environment in which to test, change, thrive and ultimately succeed — with the unflagging support of my faculty mentors — but also the freedom to venture forth on my own, try new things, make mistakes, investigate fresh ideas and possibilities, learn, grow and chart the often winding course that has defined for me

a uniquely tailored educational experience. Looking back, I know that it has finally brought me to where and who I want to be. I am ready to build upon this foundation and excited to see where this knowledge and experience will take me next.”

“I was scared, coming to Clemson, that I would become a small fish in a large pond, but since arriving I’ve grown through the obstacles and challenges to have more faith in my potential.”



Rachel Rhyne

Seymour, Tenn.
Major: Economics

(Rachel earned a B.S. in economics in May 2005 and will finish an M.A.T. in middle grades education in May 2006.)

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Student Senate (Finance and Procedures Committee), Student Government (treasurer, assistant treasurer, Finance Committee), Dixon Fellows, Campus Crusade for Christ, *The Tiger*, Mortar Board National Leadership Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi, Golden Key National Honor Society, Children’s Miracle Network Dance Marathon (Finance Committee chair), Alpha Lambda Delta, Omicron Delta Epsilon (economics honor society), Marion Harris Award for Excellence in Economics, Kappa Delta Pi (education honor society)

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Junior analyst at Scripps Networks, Knoxville, Tenn. (summer 2005)

Key Research: The economic decline of the South Carolina dairy industry; “Does the Timing of School District Elections Affect Student Achievement?”

THE NEXT CHAPTER. As graduate school, medical school, work and life emerge on their horizons, the



Rob Dixon: “I graduate knowing that my efforts in extracurricular activities will have a positive impact on Clemson that will outlast my time here. I am leaving with friendships and connections that will stay with me my whole life. Most importantly, though, I will graduate from Clemson as a person who knows what he wants to do with his life, and I will be the person that I want to be. I feel ready for anything and better prepared than the peers that I will encounter there. I have already had the experience of

being surprised to find myself using knowledge gained in class naturally in a research environment. I am ready to face graduate school and the real world as a confident leader.”

Stephen Gosnell: “I hope I have learned enough to ask questions that need answers. I also hope that I impacted Clemson and gave something back to the University and future students for all they’ve given to me. I feel prepared to go to any graduate program in the country. I received an amazing academic background, had time to do independent research and begin thinking about my own ideas for projects, and learned how to work in groups to solve problems, no matter what they may be.”

“Clemson has provided me an environment in which to test, change, thrive and ultimately succeed — with the unflagging support of my faculty mentors.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Americans for Informed Democracy, ONE Campaign Committee, Reformed University Fellowship, Best Buddies, Dixon Fellows, intramurals, Clemson Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (founding vice president), Clemson Language Partner Program (program coordinator), Golden Key National Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, 2006 Phil Prince Student Personal Development Award

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Intern with Africa Bureau, U.S. Agency for International Development (summer 2006); volunteer health promoter with AMIGOS de las Americas, Oaxaca, Mexico (summer 2005); Mission to the World, Ciudad Victoria, Mexico (spring 2005); Kenya Medical Outreach Inc. medical/dental mission, Olmekenyu and Morijo, Kenya (summer 2004)

Key Research: Major issues, economic feasibility and best practices in medical translation in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, especially in regard to Hispanic populations in the Tri-County area



Christen Smith

2006 Rhodes Scholarship Finalist

2006 Truman Scholarship Finalist

Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Majors: Health Science and Economics

senior scholars are ready for the challenges ahead.

Kate Hicks: “As I graduate, I hope I have been a leader academically, athletically and in the Clemson community. During my time at Clemson, I feel I have been presented with many challenges that have helped prepare me for the future challenges that I will undoubtedly encounter during professional school and, ultimately, my career.”

Rachel Rhyne: “I want to be able to look back on my college experience and know I took advantage of the opportunities laid before me. I hope I have given back to the university that has given me so much.”

Yousef Yasin: “I feel my time at Clemson has prepared me for my career in medicine. The personal growth and development attained during my time as a National Scholar will serve me well in medical school.”

Amanda Youell: “I hope I have given something back to Clemson, both the University and the community. Whether it is through building with Habitat for Humanity, tutoring calculus in the library or staying up all night raising money for the American Cancer Society, I hope someone felt my presence in Clemson. Being a part of the National Scholars Program provided me with the resources and connections I needed to achieve anything I ever dreamed of doing.”

“Because I found role models in the older scholars, I love to interact with the younger students now and get to serve as a resource for them since I have navigated all the same obstacles.”



Lauren Smith

Greer, S.C.

Major: Financial Management

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Student Government (organizations director, Freshman Council), *TAPS* yearbook staff, Campus Crusade for Christ, LeaderShape Institute, Clemson Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, Clemson Chapter of Amnesty International, Model United Nations, S.C. Student Legislature (Member-at-Large Committee vice chair, Clemson delegation vice chair), Dixon Fellows, Pi Delta Phi French honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society, Golden Key National Honor Society, Code Elementary after-school tutoring program, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Finance Department Student Advisory Board, Finance Department Student Investment Fund Scholar Award

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Financial management intern with General Electric, Erie, Penn. (summer 2006) and selected as 2006 National Student Intern/Co-op Contribution Award recipient; intern with Primerica Financial Services, Greenville, S.C. (summer 2005)

FAREWELL, NATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM! While the National Scholars Program cannot claim full credit for the challenges they have faced, it is in which the program has challenged them and supported them as they've faced those challenges.



Stephen Gosnell: “The National Scholars Program has prepared me by giving me sound advice and guidance for questions ranging from internships to life goals, by giving me a peer group that was an amazing sounding board and always encouraging, and by giving me opportunities, from Europe to Ecuador, that I could not have received anywhere else.”

Kate Hicks: “Through participation in the National Scholars Program, I have been exposed to leaders who have advised and encouraged me throughout each major step in my academic career.”

Rachel Rhyne: “My participation in the program has prepared me well. The National Scholars Program has really encouraged me to keep my dreams and aspirations in the forefront of my mind, rather than giving in when other options became easy alternatives.”

“I have never felt like a number. I have always had something to do on campus, and I have been able to travel abroad to places I never even dreamed of going.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership:

Tiger Band (drum major), Dixon Fellows, intramurals, Gamma Phi Beta sorority (head of collegiate-alumni relations), Best Buddies Club, Biochemistry and Genetics Club, Clemson Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (founding president), LeaderShape Institute, St. Jude Up 'Til Dawn (fund-raising chair, logistics chair), Omicron Delta Kappa, Golden Key National Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi, Clemson University Guide Association, Clemson Language Partner Program

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences:

Pediatric Oncology Education Program at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. (summer 2006); intern at the ALSAC/St. Jude fund-raising office, Charlotte, N.C. (summer 2005); French Immersion Program at the American University of Paris (summer 2005)

Key Research: The role of etoposide-induced 2.4 kB mRNA (Ei24) in intracellular transport and confirmation of a functional SUNN antibody and identification of proteins that interact with SUNN in *Medicago truncatula*



Suzanne Weaver

Phi Beta Kappa
Charlotte, N.C.
Major: Biochemistry

dit for shaping the scholars into who they have become, the scholars themselves appreciate the ways

Yousef Yasin: “Participation in the National Scholars Program has allowed me to mature and grow in confidence so that I am prepared for a career in medicine. I will miss the great support offered to members of the National Scholars and the extraordinary camaraderie among the members of the program.”

Rob Dixon: “The National Scholars Program has given me support in achieving my goals through workshops, classes and helpful

written materials, but these all pale in comparison to the help I’ve received through personal advising. The faculty and staff with the program are always willing and able to help students with any problems they may have, from writing recommendation letters to roommate issues, from choosing a major to publicizing a club meeting. Whenever I’ve encountered a closed door that was keeping me from reaching my goals, the National Scholars Program helped me learn how to open that door.”

Amanda Youell: “The National Scholars Program provided me with all of the resources and opportunities I needed to prepare for the future. My professors and advisers at Clemson gave me the tools I needed to excel in college and in life.”

Lauren Smith: “I will be entering the corporate world after graduation, and the skills the National Scholars Program has helped me cultivate — communication, teamwork, confidence and creativity — will help me advance.”

“The personal growth and development attained during my time as a National Scholar will serve me well in medical school.”



Yousef Yasin

Phi Beta Kappa
Johnson City, Tenn.
Major: Biochemistry

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Habitat for Humanity, Dixon Fellows, Biochemistry and Genetics Club, intramurals (soccer, flag football), volunteer math tutor at Cherokee Elementary School, Amnesty International, Relay for Life, volunteer youth soccer coach

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Medical shadowing with a general surgeon at the Johnson City Medical Center and a neuroradiologist at Greenville Memorial Hospital (summer 2006)

Key Research: Clinical research at Greenville Memorial Hospital on the effectiveness of the Starclose Vascular Closure Device in chronic lower leg ischemia

FAREWELL, CLEMSON! If Clemson is a family, then the National Scholars Program is a close-knit group



Rachel Rhyne: “I will miss the endless opportunities we have been given.”

Kate Hicks: “I will truly miss the guidance that is always available. I will also miss the frequent opportunities to experience so many enriching speakers and events, both on and off campus.”

Laura Hart: “It’s been so great to spend the last four years with people who get me and push me at the same time. I have really great friends from Clemson, people who understand my quirks and accept them, but also challenge me to dream big and be my best. I’m going to miss them a great deal, but they have made the last four years really wonderful for me.”

Kelly Jones: “After graduation, I will definitely miss the people that I’ve had the privilege to work and interact with as a student over the past three years. Learning extends beyond the classroom, and I’ve learned a great deal from my peers, sharing in their experiences and understanding their viewpoints. The students and faculty of Clemson University have helped me to grow into the person I am today, and I’ll treasure the memories made.”

“Being part of the National Scholars Program provided me with the resources and connections I needed to achieve anything I ever dreamed of doing.”

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Dixon Fellows, Relay for Life (team captain), Habitat for Humanity (secretary/treasurer, fund-raising chair), intramurals, math tutor, Outstanding Freshman in Mathematical Sciences, Sue King Dunkle Award for Outstanding Sophomore in Mathematical Sciences, Faculty Award for Outstanding Junior in Mathematical Sciences, Pi Mu Epsilon (mathematical sciences honor society), Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern with the Department of Defense conducting cryptanalysis with a focus on network security (summer 2006); REU in mathematics at the University of Akron (summer 2005)

Key Research: Dynamic equations on time scales (Clemson); Decrypted 16th century Spanish communiqués sent between Italy and Spain (University of Akron)



Amanda Youell

Phi Beta Kappa
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Major: Mathematical Sciences

of brothers and sisters who will miss each other as they leave campus.

Stephen Gosnell: “I will miss the small stuff. Lunches with fellow Scholars, random meetings in the office while studying, talking about whatever was on my mind with Jamie. Those moments helped define where I was going because all of the National Scholars were on very similar journeys.”

Rob Dixon: “The Clemson National Scholars program has provided me with an interdisciplinary learning environment filled with intelligent,

motivated people. It has inspired me both to explore the wide variety of learning available to me at Clemson and to push myself to be as successful and involved as I can. I look forward to doing computer science work at graduate school, but I will miss the opportunity to perform this work in a place where biochemistry, international politics and mathematics are discussed simultaneously.”

Jeff Clinkscales: “I think the thing I’ll miss most about my Clemson experience, especially the National Scholars component of it, is the ease with which I’ve been able to pursue continued learning. So much of the beauty of the National Scholars Program lies in the way it affords unexpected opportunities and experiences. Being a National Scholar didn’t just allow me to pursue whatever I wanted to do. It introduced me to venues, books, thoughts, interests and places that I could never

have imagined, that would never have occurred to me, and it provided the time, people and resources I needed to pursue them. It’s everything education should be, tailor-made for the man or woman who always has and always will love to learn. It was over way too soon.”

The 2004 National Scholars



Jill Allen

Birmingham, Ala.

Major: Architecture and Economics

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Varsity Swim Team, American Institute of Architecture Students (president), Dixon Fellows, Relay for

Life, 2005 Achim von Arnim Award for Excellence in German Literature, Emerging Green Builders

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern with Clemson University Planning Office (summer 2006)



Damon Andrews

Charlotte, N.C.

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Student Senate, Student Funding Advisory Board, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, intramurals (flag football, soccer, softball, ultimate Frisbee),

Dixon Fellows, Clemson Guide Association (vice president), *The Tiger* newspaper (columnist), 2005 Nick Lomax Rising Star Award, Leadership Council, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Blue Key Honor Society (historian)

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern with Dority and Manning, P.A., an intellectual property law firm in Greenville (summer 2006)



Juston Brown

Orangeburg, S.C.

Major: Civil Engineering

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Clemson University Gospel Choir, Clemson University Jazz Ensemble, intramurals (flag football), Student

Affairs Advisory Board, 2005 Intercultural Achievement Award



John Dixon

Idaho Falls, Idaho

Major: History and Ceramic and Materials Engineering

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Intramurals (flag football, soccer), Freshman

Council, Dixon Fellows, Student Judicial Board, Phi Alpha Theta national history honor society, Pi Delta Phi national French honor society, Relay for Life, Men's Glee, Code Elementary after-school tutoring program, Material Advantage, Materials Research Society, Keramos Outstanding Rising Junior in Materials Engineering Award

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: REU in materials science at Washington State University (summer 2006); "Synthesis and Analysis of TiO₂ Nanoparticles for Visible Light Active Antimicrobials" (spring 2006)

Colleen Gleeson



Phi Beta Kappa

Harrington, Del.

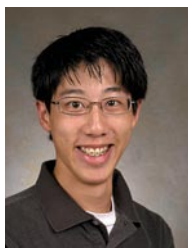
Major: English

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Intramurals (flag football, soccer), National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Fellowship of Christian

Athletes, Dixon Fellows, *The Tiger* newspaper (opinions section editor, columnist), Reformed University Fellowship, Dean's Council of Students for the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: User group study with Dr. Bob Powell on the Clemson Experimental Forest; Clemson Creative Inquiry group with Dr. Mike Lemahieu exploring the relationship between modernism and postmodernism in literature





Nathan Kwan

Greenville, S.C.

Major: Electrical Engineering and Physics

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Dixon Fellows, Habitat for Humanity (fund-raising co-chair), Outdoors Club, Relay for Life, 2005

Intercultural Achievement Award, 2005 Best Sophomore in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern with Duke Energy conducting electrical engineering research in Charlotte, N.C.



Stephen Lareau

Charlotte, N.C.

Major: Engineering

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Student Senate (university services chair, Traffic and Parking Committee), *The Tiger* (photographer),

intramurals (flag football), Student Government (assistant director of research and development), Land Use Task Force, Alpha Lambda Delta, Beta Theta Pi (scholarship chairman), Pi Tau Sigma, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society, Outstanding Sophomore Achievement in Mechanical Engineering Award

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern with the Progress and Freedom Foundation in Washington, D.C., assisting with writing the Eighth Edition of *The Digital Economy Fact Book* and developing a methodology for indexing IP protection in foreign countries (summer 2006)

Colby Mistovich



Covington, Ga.

Major: Marketing

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Clemson Outdoors Club, Catholic Student Association (leadership team, social chair), Student Alumni Association, UPAC, intramurals

(soccer), Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Clemson Tour Guide Association, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Clemson Fund, Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon (Executive Committee member, Entertainment Committee chair)

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Marketing research on consumer equity with Dr. Michael Dorsch (Clemson); Littlejohn Coliseum Major Events marketing intern



Chelsea Reighard

2007 Truman Scholarship Finalist

Clemson, S.C.

Major: Genetics and Language and International Health

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Habitat for Humanity (vice president, fund-raising chair), Relay for Life, *Semantics*, intramurals (flag football, softball), Reformed University Fellowship, Code Elementary after-school tutoring program, Alpha Lambda Delta freshman honor society (service and publicity chair), National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society, Reformed University Fellowship International, Dixon Fellows, Student Health Advisory Committee, costume technician at Brooks Center for the Performing Arts

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: Intern in Tanzania with Global Service Corps, training as an HIV/AIDS community health educator and learning Swahili (summer 2006); NIH-funded epidemiology research project, "Reducing High Risk Drinking Among First-Year College Students" (fall 2006); study abroad at University of Granada in Spain (spring 2007)



Ryan Spurrier

Phi Beta Kappa

Irmo, S.C.

Major: Mathematical Sciences

Campus Involvement and Leadership: Intramurals (ultimate Frisbee captain, flag

football captain, soccer), Dixon Fellows, Alpha Lambda Delta honor society, Clemson Wesley Foundation (staff member social coordinator, Bible study leader, 2005 Bahamas mission team, 2006 mission team to New Orleans), Clemson United Methodist Church Council member, Golden Key National Honor Society, Mortar Board honor society, Central Elementary English as a second language tutor, 2006 Alice Gray Fulmer Award from the Mathematical Sciences Department

Internship/Research/Learning Experiences: NSF-funded REU in math and statistics at Valparaiso University (summer 2006) researching the quantitative meaning of the phrase "beyond reasonable doubt"



2005 National Scholars

Achieng Adongo
Orangeburg, S.C.

Michael Griswold
Denver, N.C.

Mark Boerckel
East Moline, Ill.

Laura Kulikowski
Laurys Station, Penn.

Kristina Catani
Sewell, N.J.

Andrew Park
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Shannon Edd
Rochester, Minn.

Lori Pindar
Sumter, S.C.

Ben Garrison
Lake Jackson, Texas

Suzanne Sawicki
Tallahassee, Fla.

Randy Gelhausen
Dallas, Texas

Ben Ward
Columbia, S.C.

2006 National Scholars

Alexandra Barkett
Lawrenceville, Ga.

Rahul Loungani
Columbia, S.C.

Brent Berkompas
Franklin, Tenn.

Bethany Moore
Columbia, S.C.

Elizabeth Billheimer
Summerfield, N.C.

Erica Morrison
Jacksonville, Fla.

Paul Blichmann
Monroe, N.C.

Meredith Myers
Concord, N.C.

Allison Foreman
Columbia, S.C.

Jennifer Rahn
Ehrhardt, S.C.

Lucas Hurd
Surgoinsville, Tenn.

Lillie Stewart
Marietta, Ga.

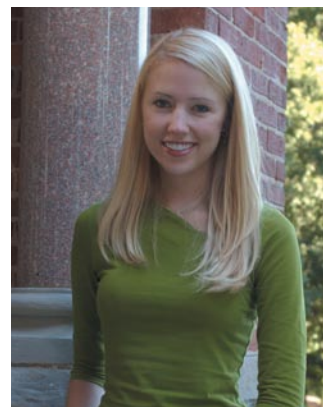
Donovan Jones
Sumter, S.C.



Our Accomplished Alumni

Three classes of National Scholars have graduated, and each has moved on to pursue further studies at leading universities around the world and employment with Fortune 500 companies, including the following:

- Jenny Alley '05 : University of Georgia, master's in marketing research
- Katherine Chisholm '05: Emory University, M.P.H. in global public health
- Ashley Dahl '04: Yale University, medical school
- Brian Eyink '06: Duke University, law school
- Joseph Godsey '04: General Electric, placement into highly selective advanced leadership training program
- Mark Gramling '05: UNC-Chapel Hill, Ph.D. in immunopathology
- Jacob Hicks '05: UNC-Chapel Hill, Ph.D. in computer science
- Jamie Kearns '06: Columbia (NY) University, medical school
- Matt Kerr '04: Cambridge (UK), advanced studies in mathematics and University of Washington, Ph.D. in physics
- Michelle Malecha '04: General Electric, placement into highly selective advanced leadership training program
- Ahmed Mohiuddin '06: Medical University of South Carolina, medical school
- Ashley Neal '04: University of Alabama-Birmingham, medical school
- Will Sams '05: Georgia Tech, Ph.D. in physics
- Clarice Seifert '05: Medical University of South Carolina, medical school
- Will Spink '05: Covenant Theological Seminary, master's in divinity
- Michael Stadnisky '05: University of Virginia, Ph.D. in infectious disease
- Jeremy Stovall '05: University of Vermont, master's in natural resource management
- Elizabeth Ward '04: University of Tennessee, law school
- Chris Welch '04: UNC-Chapel Hill, medical school and Ph.D. in pharmacology
- Jeff Young '05: Georgia Tech, Ph.D. in computer engineering
- Joe Ziska '05: Clemson University, master's in economics



A Great University

Clemson is located on the shores of Lake Hartwell and in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in South Carolina. More than 17,000 students call Clemson home and pursue degrees in more than 70 undergraduate and 100 graduate areas of study, from engineering and the sciences to business and English. Clemson University is one of the nation's top-ranked public universities according to *TIME* magazine, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Kaplan/Newsweek*.



Clemson's Premier Scholarship Program

The Clemson University National Scholars Program provides a select number of extraordinary freshmen with an extraordinary educational experience that includes the following:

- A full four-year scholarship covering tuition, housing and other fees
- Summer study in Europe
- A state-of-the-art laptop computer
- Academic seminars that explore critical thinking and leadership
- Ongoing enrichment opportunities throughout the year

The Clemson National Scholars are also members of Calhoun Honors College, which provides advanced course work and research opportunities as well as support in competing for major national and international fellowships. Everyone at Clemson University is committed to providing an unmatched undergraduate experience to each of our Clemson National Scholars.

The Selection Process

To be considered for the Clemson National Scholars Program, applicants complete a Clemson University undergraduate admissions application. After a review of these applications, a selection committee narrows the field to approximately 40 finalists who are invited to Clemson National Scholars Weekend in the early spring. Scholarships are awarded shortly afterward.

Contact Us

William Lasser

Director

lasser@clemson.edu

Jamie Williams

Associate Director

jamwill@clemson.edu

Clemson National Scholars Program

232 Brackett Hall

Clemson, SC 29634-5108

Telephone: (864) 656-6160

Toll free: 1-866-850-9413

Web site: www.clemson.edu/national_scholars

